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Investigators Ask for Public's Help with Two Provincetown Arson Fires

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan, Provincetown Fire Chief Michael Trovato and Acting Provincetown Police Chief Warren Tobias are asking for the public's help to solve two arson fires that occurred last night at 473 Commercial Street and 10 Bradford Road in Provincetown. Investigators are concerned that the two fires may be connected to each other and to ten other small fires that have occurred recently. Coan said, "Many of the homes are seasonal, so we need the members of the community who are there to be vigilant and to assist us. We are looking to speak with a white male, 40-50 years old possibly driving a black vehicle that was seen near one of the fire scenes. He may have seen something that would help the investigation."

Coan added, "If anyone saw any suspicious activity near any of the fire scenes or has any information, please call the confidential Arson Hotline at 1-800-682-9229 or the Provincetown Police at 508 487-1212."

Fire officials are concerned because the houses in this area of Provincetown are close together and a fire in an unoccupied house could delay notification of the fire department and pose a risk to neighboring homes.

The fire is being jointly investigated by the Provincetown Fire Department, Provincetown Police Department, the Barnstable County Sheriff's Department and State Police in the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

The Arson Hotline is part of the Arson Watch Reward Program that is sponsored by the property and casualty insurance underwriting companies in the Commonwealth. The Arson Watch Reward Program gives rewards of up to \$5,000 to help solve arson crimes.

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